

281—19.9(256E) Charter school contract. Within the later of 30 days following approval of a charter school application or upon the satisfaction of all reasonable conditions imposed on the applicant in the charter school approval, if any, an enforceable and renewable charter school contract shall be executed between the founding group and the state board setting forth the academic and operational performance expectations and measures by which the charter school will be evaluated pursuant to Iowa Code sections 256E.9 and 256E.10, rules 281—19.10(256E) and 281—19.13(256E), and the other rights and duties of the parties.

19.9(1) *Initial contract.* An initial charter school contract shall be granted for a term of five school budget years. The charter school contract shall include the beginning and ending dates of the charter school contract term.

19.9(2) *Delay of opening.* An approved charter school may delay its opening for a period of time not to exceed one school year in order to plan and prepare for the charter school's opening. If the charter school requires an opening delay of more than one school year, the charter school may request an extension from the state board.

19.9(3) *Signed contract.* Each charter school contract shall be signed by the president of the state board and the president or appropriate officer of the governing body of the founding group.

19.9(4) *Notification of charter school.* Within 15 days of the execution of a charter school contract entered into by the state board, the state board shall notify the department and the department of management of the name of the charter school and any applicable education service provider, the proposed location of the charter school, and the charter school's first year projected enrollment.

19.9(5) *Commencing operations.* A charter school approved under this chapter shall not commence operations without a valid charter school contract executed in accordance with this rule and approved in an open session of the state board.

19.9(6) *Conditions prior to opening.* The contract may provide for requirements or conditions to govern and monitor the start-up progress of an approved charter school prior to the opening of the charter school including but not limited to conditions to ensure that the charter school meets all building, health, safety, insurance, and other legal requirements.

19.9(7) *Contract governing multiple charter schools.* A charter school contract may be amended to govern multiple charter schools operated by the same applicant and approved by the state board. However, each charter school that is part of a charter school contract shall be separate and distinct from any other charter school governed by the contract.

[ARC 6078C, IAB 12/15/21, effective 1/19/22]